

The Oregonian

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TODAY'S WEATHER—Occasional rain, with light to high northerly winds.

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 12

Fish Protector Reed's report, in the condensed form of the space at our command requires us to give it, as a most interesting and important disclosure.

Reed's minor suggestions are many and interesting, and if we were likely to get a salmon law on its merits, they would be worth favorable consideration.

Great Britain's latest experiment in the organization of native troops has been made in China, where at Wei Hai Wei last year a Chinese regiment was recruited for three years to serve in any part of the world.

Within the last two years the idea has gained currency that a law limited to its operation to certain counties is unconstitutional. The fact is that we have many such laws in continuous operation.

counties. The objection referred to is offered more in opposition to the desire of certain counties to be exempted from the operation of the proposed primary law.

NATIVE TROOPS FOR COLONIAL SERVICE.

If we continue to hold the Philippines we shall, if we are wise, imitate the example of Great Britain and make large use of native troops, commanded by white officers, drilled and disciplined after American methods, and armed with the improved weapons of modern warfare.

The British Empire has a long history of native troops. The first brilliant campaign of the British Empire was fought largely by the native troops. They were increased under Clive's successors, and today constitute more than one-half of the British-India army of over 70,000 men.

The success of Great Britain in making admiral soldiers out of the fighting races of India, out of the Egyptians, out of the Nubian negroes, out of the Sudanese Arabs, out of the Housa negro tribes of West Africa, is not more remarkable than the success of our experiment with negro troops in the regular army.

URBAN GRAVITATION CHECKED.

As shown by the census bulletins issued from time to time during the past few months, the great rush of people from country and suburban districts to the cities and large towns has received a substantial check. In the two decades succeeding the Civil War, owing to the revival of manufactures and the up-springing of trade and commerce, there was a strong demand for labor in manufacturing and seaboard towns.

The increase in pension expenditures foreshadowed for the current year represents the difference between \$18,000,000 as disbursed on this account last year and \$142,000,000 needed to liquidate demands now pending. This increase is due to the more liberal provision made for the widows of veterans and the larger construction of the law in regard to disabilities suffered in

the Army. It is easy to see how both of these doors may be open to fraud and extravagance in pension allowances. The first might be readily closed by defining a veteran's widow as a widow who was the wife of a soldier within the term of his military service and thus without defraying any worthy woman who has a legitimate claim upon the Government on account of her husband's death from disabilities suffered in the Army.

INDEPENDENCE NOT FOR THE POPE

Archbishop Ireland's prediction in his recent sermon in Washington that at no remote day "the Italian people at Christendom's large will give back to liberty" is not likely to be fulfilled. Revolutions do not often go backward, and the restoration of the pope to temporal sovereignty is not likely to take place.

Another plate-glass window on the East Side has been smashed by a rock thrown in a malicious intent, and still no arrest has been made, nor has the name of any "prominent citizen" as the father of one of the lawless young scoundrels of the "S. S. S." been given to the public.

The man who does battle with his great strength against the lawless intent, armed with a revolver, in defense of his month's earnings, challenges admiration for his fearlessness in defense of his rights. His prudence, however, is of questionable quality, since it puts in jeopardy his future earning capacity.

The consensus of opinion among business men here is against the proposed Oriental Fair, providing the idea can be fully and sufficiently carried out. Certainly we want no half-way measures that will belittle our conception of the possibilities of Oriental trade and subject our ideas of meeting its demands to ridicule.

At Carnegie Hall, New York, the Society of Ethical Culture listened to an address on "Confucius" by the Chinese Minister to the United States. They then met at the United States Hotel, where a match for the great Oriental teacher with the Man of Galilee, and no protest was heard when he said: "A good Christian is a good Confucian, and a good Confucian is a good Christian."

THE PRICE OF REFORM.

The crusade against the New York has again brought out the familiar accusation that certain wealthy citizens who are ranked with the better element rent out their property for immoral purposes. This sort of reprisal is certain to accompany any effort in the direction of reform. It is by no means confined to New York. It is a spirit which is practically universal in its operation.

THE VERMONT LEGISLATURE KILLED A BILL

prohibiting the granting of free passes to the Judges of the Supreme Court. The Judges evidently need not use passes, and do not wish to abandon the practice.

THE GREATER OREGON IS THE GREATER

it needs in Congress. Oregon is not a little state, nor are its interests little.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.

The Legislature of Maryland in 1896 made a curious oversight in fixing the date of the Electoral College for the election of President and Vice President of the United States on the first Wednesday in December. That was the day named by the act of Congress passed in 1845, and which was amended in 1864 in January by the act of Congress approved February 3, 1865, and, of course, in this matter the act of Congress prevails over the act of the Legislature.

decade covered, or about the average increase of the entire country in the same period, indicating now, as never before in our history, that the city and the country are keeping even pace in development. In the view of the political economist, the balance has been struck in the interests of the two sections, and the growth has become normal.

THE TACOMA LEDGER, WHICH PRINTED A DELIBERATE LIE ABOUT THE GERMAN SHIP GERTRUD STRIKING ON THE COLUMBIA BAR, IS VERY MUCH WORKED UP OVER THE OREGONIAN'S OBJECTION TO SUCH WILLFUL MISREPRESENTATION.

With some of the characteristics of a crawfish, and others of a cuttle-fish, the Ledger is squirming away from punishment which all hats earn. The Oregonian called attention to the recent disasters which overtook the steamships Duke of Pife and Alpha, both of which were injured after leaving the Straits, just as the Gertrud was wrecked after leaving the Columbia River. The Ledger goes to unnecessary trouble to inform The Oregonian that the Alpha did not sail from Tacoma, although the Duke of Pife did sail from that port.

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has been smashed by a rock thrown in a malicious intent, and still no arrest has been made, nor has the name of any "prominent citizen" as the father of one of the lawless young scoundrels of the "S. S. S." been given to the public.

There is a narrow Republican margin in the House, and it will be surprising if a sufficient number of votes can be mustered in that body to pass a bill so indefensible in its nature and so hateful to the common people—not hateful necessarily to the rich people who have large bank accounts and who have money invested in mines, steamship lines, and large manufacturing enterprises, but working harmful to the people who work with their hands or are merely well to do.

There was a great outcry during the late campaign against the attempt of Mr. Bryan to make an appeal to class distinctions and to excite class animosities. The object of the present Congress seems to be to rush through, under whip and spur, the pending House bill of Congress not fresh from the pocket of the Senator who introduced it, but which has been touched with them, a bill embodying class legislation which will justify in the large cities of the United States, both East and West. It was notably successful in Chicago. All the advantages were on the side of the Reform party, so far as the great issues of the campaign were concerned. Yet they were only able to carry this city by the poor plurality of 768.

There may be some argument in the fortuitous circumstance that Holland is the cradle of liberty and Kruger is in his second childhood.

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THE FURTHER KRUGER GETS AWAY FROM HIS COMPATRIOTS

the faster grows the echo of his fighting to the death.

THE VELOCITY OF MONEY.

The velocity of money in France has not yet been satisfactorily determined. M. Paul de Cassas, who is engaged upon this difficult problem, according to the estimate of one of his days, this cannot be far from the velocity of all the money of France. In the United States of America the velocity of money is about once a week, or 52 times a year. In the United Kingdom it is about once in two days, or 365 times a year. In France it stands about twice as fast as in America. If conjectures be permitted where information is lacking it may perhaps not be far wrong to estimate its velocity at about once in four or five days, or 73 times a year. This slowness of money, as compared with its rapidity in Great Britain, does not wholly nor mainly arise from the causes alleged by Necker. Something is due to the lack of the check system; something to the fact that, while in Great Britain the bulk of all the exchanges takes place in the single City of London, in France the exchanges are (happily) divided among many cities, while something may also be due to the mode of collecting the taxes and the temporary fluctuations in the hands of local officials.

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Specifically, as shown in one of the November bulletins, 159 towns showed an increase of 32.5 per cent during the

HOW TO HELP THE SUPREME COURT

SALLEM, Or., Dec. 11.—(To the Editor.)—I have heard of the proposal of the State Bar Association to induce the Legislature to create a Supreme Court. I have read in The Oregonian the interviews had with several leading Judges and attorneys of your city on that subject.

THE OSTEONABLE PURPOSE IS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR THE SUPREME COURT IN THE LABOR OF CLEARING THE DOCKET OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF CASES WHICH HAVE ACCUMULATED THERE AND HAVE NOT YET BEEN DISPOSED OF.

The average taxpayer will see in the measure a scheme to create a new and costly addition to the present large number of boards and commissions with which the state is already burdened.

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NOTE AND COMMENT.

Magazines still foolishly devote space to Bryan which might more profitably be given to other advertisers.

The Democratic party in Utah has passed a resolution to disband. Here are Democrats who are sharp-sighted enough to see their finish.

A small fire occurred in the Treasury building in Washington the other day. Times are so good that the Government was pleased to burn.

Vice-President-elect Roosevelt is going to Colorado next month to hunt mountain lions. And it is just possible that he may visit Victor in quest of bigger game.

People who have clauses they would like to see in the army bill should get General Miles to advise against their passage.

Towne has been appointed to fill Senator Davis' position, but he will have plenty of room in it to rattle around as much as he likes.

President Kruger has sent a wreath to be put on the tomb of Emperor William I. He would probably be willing to add an I to the name, if the opportunity offered.

If Holland goes to war with Portugal she will be glad to have Kruger at her capital, for possibly she can make a dicker with England to exchange him for Cronje.

Roberts is to be made a Duke, but as he has no American heirs in sight for a wife, he can hardly hope to occupy much space in the newspapers belonging to W. R. Hearst.

The Chicago preachers are going to preach in the Chicago saloons, but as there will not be nearly enough of them to go around, the saloon frequenter will not be obliged to stay at home while the services are going on.

Any infraction of the rules at Girard College, Philadelphia, is punished with 20 minutes on a stool of repentance. When the institution first adopted this scheme of punishment one student was enough, but the college expanded, the stools multiplied, and today no fewer than 50 four-legged penitential instruments of discipline are in more or less constant use in a room devoted exclusively to the punishment of those who have transgressed the rules. There is absolutely nothing to the disciplining except the order to sit on a comfortable stool for 20 minutes and "think over" it.

Esternsky swears that the bordereau, which was the sole legal piece of evidence against Dreyfus, was forged by Esterhazy, and that, therefore, the exoneration of it by the handwriting experts was illusory. He practically confirms the conclusions arrived at by the Court de Cassation, as far as they went, admitting the truth of the charges made by the court. He is not, however, declaring that the text of the deposition, which was sworn to by Esterhazy. Copies of the documents to substantiate the declarations are also in some instances presented. The deposition incriminates Colonel Du Paty de Clam, Colonel Henry, General Billot, General Bouslog, General Gonse and General Sausser.

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PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS.

Prescriptions.—He-do you object to the word "obey" in the marriage service? She—Oh, Mr. Walter, this is so ridiculous. I don't think it is anything to quarrel with. Why do you quarrel with it, Johnny?—You bet! She said she never suspected you'd give her anything so cheap.—TH-ITS.

Inadvertently Pleasant.—"I didn't know it was to be a comic opera." "Well, you know it was to be an opera given by an amateur company. Didn't you?"—Chicago Record.

Fully Guaranteed.—"Is this a standard article?" "Groceries, ma'am! You'll notice that it's bright-colored, looks like dog biscuit, and tastes like cod-liver-oil."—Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

The Manly Thing.—Elsie—No, I can't bear college theatricals. I don't like to see a man take a woman's part. Rosalie—My goodness! I think it is something to be proud of. If he didn't—Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

The Leader of Pleading.—First Lawyer—You're blackening my political aspirations, hasn't he? Second Lawyer—Why do you think that? First Lawyer—I notice he calls all the barkeepers by their first names.—New York Weekly.

An Eye for you my answer until the first of next year. Mr. Safford—But why? You say you love me and— Miss Smoother—Why, you know that this is a Christmas time, and you've announced now, soon of the other men would send me a single Christmas gift.—Baltimore American.

The Successful Operation.

Chicago Times-Herald. My friend was on the table. And I waited, full of doubt. But she surprised me with comfort. As they hurried in and out— They were full of hope, they said. It was something to be proud of. They had found the seat of trouble, and they knew. Where to probe and where to leave. So they gave me to believe. That my friend would rest in peace. They were through!

They were famous, they had practiced in those foreign countries where The inscrutable preferences. Lay old Nature's secrets bare. And they laughed my fears away. As they closed the door, that day. It was something to be proud of. Long I waited for the end. And they told me it was done—"Still he's not dead, my friend. And he'll be with you this year. Through their skill, should be the prey of pain no more. Full of smiles, at last, they sought me. And they told me it was done—"Still he's not dead, my friend. And he'll be with you this year. Through their skill, should be the prey of pain no more. They rubbed their hands in gloe. They congratulated me. And they complimented me another, too! Each had defied his part. Each had gloried his art. For Success had followed all their movements through! I heard them, full of wonder. And I asked if he could see me. But they told me he could not. For my luckless friend was dead! It was all his fault, they said—"They had triumphed. Skill had risen to the aid. They had found and cut away. All they sought, I heard them say. And the shock had left him lifeless—that was all.